National Aeronautics and Space Administration

## Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 28, 2009

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO:

Distribution

FROM:

Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT:

Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the 2009

Washington Economic Development Luncheon on January 30, 2009

On January 30, 2009, the Louisiana Economic Development Office will sponsor a luncheon entitled, "2009 Washington Mardi Gras" at the Washington Hilton in Washington, D.C. Other sponsors of the event include eight Louisiana Chambers of Commerce. Over 350 people are invited to the luncheon which is under \$50 per person, including representatives of industry, government, Congress, and academia. All Louisiana congressional members and their staff will be present and will be providing briefings.

I find that this luncheon meets the requirements of a "widely-attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g). I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will allow NASA employees to exchange information on NASA's space program with individuals from a broad spectrum of industry, government, and academia in the Washington and Louisiana area. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the sponsors, or a majority of their members, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the luncheon.

NASA employees who duties may substantially affect the sponsors, or a majority of their members, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.294(g)(3)(i).

Adam F. Greenstone